

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01606 162200Z

70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-03

USIA-12 PRS-01 L-03 RSR-01 /129 W

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P R 162136Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1316

INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL TORONTO

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 1606

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, CA

SUBJECT: REVISION OF GOC ANSWER ON OWNERSHIP OF NORTHERN CANADIAN PIPE-
LINES

REF: OTTAWA A-318

1. BY LETTER DATED JULY 10, MR. W.A. SCOTLAND OF
ENERGY, MINES & RESMURCES (EMR) " IMPROVED UPON"
ANSWER PREVIOUSLY GIVEN US ON OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL
BY "MAKING A DISTINCTION BETWEEN GAS PIPELINES AND
OIL PIPELINES".

2. COMPLETE QUESTION AND ANSWER, AS REVISED IN
ENCLOSURE WITH SCOTLAND'S LETTER, FOLLOW VERBATIM:

"WHAT IS THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION
LIKELY TO BE WITH REGARD TO OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL?"
SPEAKING TO THIS POINT IN CONNECTION WITH A GAS
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 01606 162200Z

PIPELINE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON MAY 22ND, 1973,

MINISTER MACDONALD SAID

"MR. SPEAKER, I HAVE INDICATED THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE TO GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CANADIANS TO ACQUIRE 51 PERCENT OWNERSHIP IN ANY SUCH PIPELINE AND THE EXPECTATION THAT IT WOULD REMAIN UNDER CANADIAN CONTROL."

IN CONNECTION WITH AN OIL PIPELINE WHICH MIGHT TAKE U.S. OIL TO U.S. MARKETS USING CANADA AS A "LAND BRIDGE", IT WOULD NOT BE ITS POLICY TO REQUIRE MAJORITY CANADIAN OWNERSHIP. HOWEVER, AS CANADIAN OIL BECOMES AVAILABLE IT WOULD BE EXPECTED THAT THE PIPELINE WOULD BE EXPANDED TO ACCEPT SUCH OIL.

IN ADDITION, ALL INTERPROVINCIAL AND INTERNATIONAL PIPELINES ARE UNDER NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD CONTROL.

3. COPY OF LETTER AND ENCLOSURE AIRPOUCHED TO EUR/CAN- THOMSON AND EB/FSE- MAU BY EMBASSY JULY 12.

4. COMMENT: ALTERATION OF PREVIOUS EMR REPLY TO THIS QUESTION (OUR A-318) CONSISTS OF ADDITION OF CLAUSE "IN CONNECTION WITH A GAS PIPELINE" IN FIRST SENTENCE OF ANSWER AND ADDITION OF ENTIRE PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH. SCHMIDT

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